

# RIDGE PIKE UPDATE

Bridges Over PA Turnpike and Norfolk Southern Railroad

## Improvement Project in Plymouth Township

FEBRUARY 2023

## What is the Ridge Pike Improvement Project?

Ridge Pike is a major roadway through Montgomery County dating back to Pennsylvania's colonial era, when it connected Philadelphia and Reading.

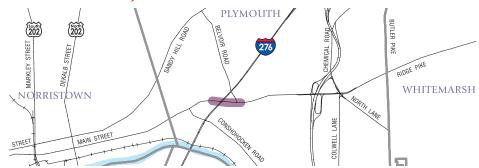
Today, the county owns Ridge Pike between Philadelphia and Norristown, a stretch of road that passes through numerous suburban communities, connects to I-476 and provides an alternative to I-76, the Schuylkill Expressway. It was originally paved in the 1930's.

Parts of Ridge Pike have not changed much since the early 1900s. Some sections were widened in the 1970s or as development occurred but much of this portion of Ridge Pike needs extensive repair, additional travel lanes and drainage upgrades. Ridge Pike accommodates daily traffic volumes of 30,000 vehicles, and thousands more when incidents on the Schuylkill Expressway divert traffic.

The Ridge Pike Improvement Project in Plymouth Township includes the reconstruction of two major bridges.

The bridges over the Pennsylvania Turnpike and one set of Norfolk Southern railroad tracks will constitute a stand alone project. The second bridge over Norfolk Southern east of Belvoir Road will be included with Section B between Belvoir Road and Chemical Road.

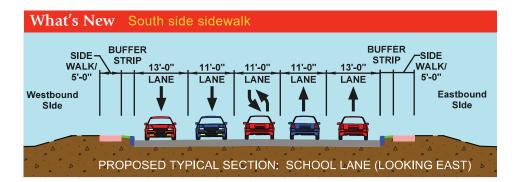
#### Project Area: School Lane to Belvoir Road

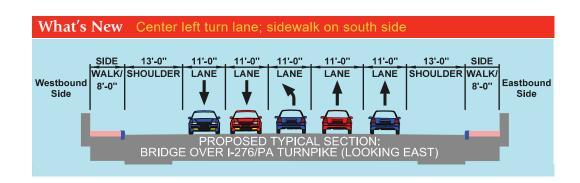


#### The Ridge Pike reconstruction will provide numerous What are the project's benefits? benefits to citizens, drivers, and businesses, including: **NEW MAJOR IMPROVED BRIDGES** WALKABILITY **SIGNALIZED** INTERSECTIONS BETTER **SMOOTHER DRAINAGE DRIVING SURFACE SAFER** REDUCED **TURNING CONGESTION** For more information, visit www.RidgePikeProject.com

# What improvements are being planned?

Montgomery County is working with the PA Turnpike and Norfolk Southern to replace old bridges in order to accommodate additional Ridge Pike improvements.







# **30,000**Cars Per Day



Ridge Pike needs to be a 21st century roadway to carry 30,000 vehicles a day, allow safer pedestrian movements, and support local businesses.

#### Rebuilding Infrastructure:

Ridge Pike is a critical element of the region's road network.

The county has a duty to maintain it.

#### **Install Sidewalks:**

PROPOSED TYPICAL SECTION: BELVOIR ROAD (LOOKING EAST)

Pedestrians have no safe place to walk. Providing sidewalks along Ridge Pike will improve pedestrian safety and comfort.

#### **Reconstruct Entire Road:**

Originally paved in the 1930's, Ridge Pike is in need of a complete reconstruction.

#### **Upgrade Drainage:**

Modern drainage facilities will improve safety by managing stormwater.

#### **Upgrade Aging Bridges:**

Replacement of major bridges will extend functionality well into the future.

# Coordinated with the PA Turnpike:

The new bridges will accommodate the proposed Norristown/Lafayette Street Interchange.

www.RidgePikeProject.com



### What is the status of the project?

The Ridge Pike Improvement Project replacing two bridges in Plymouth Township is currently in final engineering and right-of-way acquisition before construction can begin. At this time it is anticipated that construction will start in Mid-2025 and continue for two years.

# CONSTRUCTION COST:

\$43,150,000

#### **FUNDS:**

Montco PennDOT PA Turnpike

# ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION START:

2025

#### **ENGINEER:**

Traffic Planning & Design, Inc.



Montgomery County Board of Commissioners Kenneth E. Lawrence Jr., *Chair* Jamila Winder, *Vice Chair* Joseph C. Gale, Commissioner



Allison Slizofski, PE



#### For more information please contact:

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